



Solid Copy

The International CWops Newsletter

November

2010

Issue No. 10



CWops Events

On-Air Monthly CWT

Next one: 10 November 2010

Start time:

1100Z Asia/VK/ZL region

1900Z Europe Region

0300Z (11 November) NA region

1-hour each region

Exchange name/number (members)

Exchange name/SPC (non-members)

CWops "neighborhood"

Look for CWops on 1.818, 3.528, 7.028, 10.118, 14.028, 18.078, 21.028, 24.908, 28.028

CWops "Happy Hour"

1900 local, every day, on or near the "neighborhood" frequencies – just call "CQ" or answer someone else.

CWops Officers and Director

Officers

President: Pete Chamalian, [W1RM](#)

Vice President: Art Suberbille, [KZ5D](#)

Secretary: Jim Talens, [N3JT](#)

Treasurer: Harry Wilson, [W1AAX](#)

Directors:

Bert Donn, [G3XSN](#)

Shin Onisawa, [JA1NUT](#)

Vidi La Grange, [ZS1EL](#)

Webmaster: John Miller, [K6MM](#)

Publisher: Rob Brownstein, [K6RB](#)

From the president...



Elections:

Well, here in the US, it's election time. This year, the political campaigning has been particularly vigorous and in many cases very nasty.

So too, it's election time for CWops, but I'm very happy to say it's been very tame and orderly. Elsewhere in Solid Copy, you will see a report from the Nominating Committee with the list of candidates for office and directors for 2011. We will be conducting our elections using electronic balloting (with appropriate safeguards to prevent multiple ballots). Once the Web page is ready, a notice will be sent to all members so they may cast their vote.

I do hope you will participate!

Sponsoring New Members:

It's appropriate to remind everyone that we need to follow the process as stated in the bylaws when it comes to nominating or sponsoring a candidate for membership. That is, "All sponsors must indicate that they have had CW radio contact with the nominee on at least two occasions within the previous 12 months." If you want to support someone but don't have the necessary QSO's, contact them and get them on the air!

CW Rookie Roundup:

One of the main objectives of CWops is the promotion of CW operating and the ARRL Rookie Roundup is the perfect place to help

budding CW ops get their feet wet. You can work ‘em and/or you can host them at your station if you know a newly licensed ham who would like to participate. It’s the perfect teaching opportunity. You and the rookie will have some fun in the process!

Mark your calendar for December 19 from 1800z to 2359z on 80-6 meters (excluding the WARC bands). Look for participants at or around 050 on each band. The exchange is Name, last two digits of the year first licensed and your state, Canadian province, Mexican call areas or “DX”.

For details, check the ARRL web page: <http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup>

Upcoming Events:

It’s not too early to start thinking about coming to Washington, DC and the 2011 North American CW Weekend on May 7-9. The event is open to all CW enthusiasts regardless of any club membership. It promises to be a super gathering. You will find details on the member page.

There is also some discussion about CWops having a booth at Dayton. If you are interested in helping out, please contact N3JT or N1DG.

There is some conversation with the organizers of the CQ WW Contest with regard to CWops sponsoring awards for youth operators. There is some coordination needed as well as some planning with CQ, the international Cabrillo group and contest logging software writers. If you’re interested in helping (this is coordination and communication work, no coding involved), please let me or one of the officers know. Thanks!

To all our US members, a very happy Thanksgiving to you and your family!

See you on the bands!

Pete, W1RM

From the VP/Activities Chairman...



Some of my fondest ham radio memories were made during the month of November. The CW SS was the first real contest that I participated in as a single op. And back in those days, we had separate transmitters and receivers. And the switching from transmit to receive was done by manually throwing a toggle switch that activated a Dow-key relay that sounded like a hammer striking a nail. Did I mention that I was using a DX-60 and barely made 100 QSOs? But what a thrill it was! And each year thereafter, I felt the same excitement building as the first Saturday of November approached.

I'm sure many of you US and Canadian members have had similar experiences. But for those of you who haven't discovered the fun of the SS, now's your chance. It is Saturday, Nov. 6th. Full rules are a click away: http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contest_details.php?ref=177

Another favorite in November, open to members worldwide, is the CQ WW CW that takes place the last weekend of the month (http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contest_details.php?ref=192) . Work your fill of DX stations on any open band.

Since the inception of CWops, I've also become a fan of the 60 minutes of fun we sponsor on the second Wednesday of each month. Mark your calendar for Wednesday, Nov. 10. We have three separate 60-minute sessions at 1100z, 1900z, and 0300z (actually on the Thursday morning, UTC). Participate in any one, or all three, each month. The times are chosen to offer optimal darkness conditions first in Asia/Oceania, then Europe/Africa, then North/South America. Winter/Summer conditions will, of course, vary with time of year and hemisphere, but since we do it every month, differences tend to balance out.

Lots of the CWops have discovered the fun. For details see our website: <http://www.cwops.org/onair.html> I imagine some of you who regularly read this column must be getting tired of me promoting the miniCWT each month, but there are a large number of our members who haven't joined in the fun yet.

After last month's reminder, I was delighted to receive an email from EA8AY. Luis wrote: "Hi. My first CWT very fun, but really the condx in the band (20) no good this morning here. Hope this evening better, but really very fun contest."

That's the kind of operating fun that awaits those who haven't given it a try yet! Don't miss this month's miniCWT.

By the way, if any of you are interested in joining our Activities Team, we've got a couple of spots available. Our group works on Activities and sets dates and rules for the events. Contact me by email if you have the time to help out!

Have you started to track your member-to-member QSOs for our club awards? A lot of us are doing so now. We offer handsome certificates for achieving certain levels as you work fellow

club members. Each month, I remind members to send in their latest updated totals for the awards for inclusion in my column. Here's the latest info:

Membership Award. Reports listed reflect all information received through October 30, 2010. Stations with an asterisk * next to their calls have updated their reports this month. Listing ranked by ACA totals.

	ACA	CMA
N5RR*	382	793
W5ZR*	345	720
W1RM*	341	733
W4PM	314	736
R6AF*	306	527
W5SG	300	572
KZ5D*	297	809
W6KY	283	504
K6RB*	266	609
K6MM	252	515
W1UJ	247	527
N2UU	223	440
KR3E*	210	445
K4AB	192	282
EA1WX	180	316
N3WT*	165	233
K4GM*	161	224
AD1C	148	216
K5KV	116	185
N5AW	116	
OK1RR	116	
N3IQ	110	

See you in the mini-CWT on Wednesday, November 10th.

73 de Art KZ5D@aol.com Activities Team Leader

From the Editor...



Reading Pete's and Art's columns reminded me of how I got my feet wet in contesting. Back in June 1958, I got my first license at age 11. My first transmitter was a Viking Adventurer (6AG7 oscillator; 807 amplifier; 5U4G rectifier). It was rated 50 watts (input power) and probably put out about 30 watts on a good day. My first receiver was a borrowed ARC 5 for 80 meters, but by this time of year (my birthday is November 29), I had raised enough cash to buy my own receiver – a Hallicrafters S-38E. My first foray into CW contesting was the next Novice Roundup. I asked my neighbor, Marty (K2TTK), what "CQ NR" was all about, and he explained to me the rules and exchange. I take my hat off to Art for having made 100 QSOs with his DX-60 and DowKey relay. I made about 25 QSOs with my little set up and my T/R switch was a bakelite DPDT knife switch screwed into the wall.

I was tempted to try the SS the following November but the long, complicated exchange scared me off. These days, I enjoy a good shot of SS CW. I will also get involved with the upcoming Rookie Roundup. I'm a big believer in the value of "elmering" when it comes to getting new or even veteran hams who have not tried CW to give it a roll.

By the way, a year after I got my license, I managed to save enough for a Hammarlund HQ-110 receiver. I used that Adventurer/HQ-110 combination for 12 years! Then, in 1970, I bought and built a Heathkit HW-100...and used that for 12 years! In 1982, I got a Ten-Tec OMNI and my first amplifier (an Ameritron AL-80). I also got my first tower and yagi. For those first 24 years, the best antenna I had was a random length from a second-story window to a nearby tree. Needless to say, I really appreciated having a good antenna system, but I obviously had enough fun for those first 24 years to keep me sufficiently enthalledr to stay with it. CW played a huge part in keeping me involved because you could work other people with low power and a compromise antenna.

73,
Rob K6RB

New England CW Event

The New England CW dinner was a classic, fun experience, organized by N1DG, and attended by a large number of members.

The Plimouth Plantation was the main event on Saturday afternoon, with a visit to the Indian and settler villages where re-enactors brought everyone back to the 1620s. Many also toured the reconstructed Mayflower, re-built in 1957 in England and sailed across to Plymouth.

Some 55 people were in attendance at the Saturday feast, including SM6CUK and MD0CCE. It featured a period meal served family-style, with period actors serving and entertaining as a succession of courses were served.

There was a Park Service speaker who provided a slide-based history of the several sites where Marconi conducted his landmark radio experiments in the early 20th century. Door prizes included a keyer paddle, gift certificates, etc.

Sunday was a visit to the Marconi Museum in Chatham and to the original transmitter site at Wellfleet, on Cape Cod. Imagine erecting four 200-foot wood towers and having to explain to your sponsor why the wind has just blown them down despite warnings beforehand!

It seems that regional weekends are increasingly becoming the landscape of the CW social calendar. CW enthusiasts really do have wonderfully fun times at these events. The next BIG social gathering for CW folks is in the Washington, DC area the weekend of May 7. There will be more information on it soon.

Jim, N3JT

Upcoming Elections

As a practical matter, at the club's inception, it was decided to appoint the president, vice president, secretary and three directors. The intention was to begin the election process within a year, and to elect a president, secretary and director for that first election. In the following year, the vice president and a director would be elected, and the third year would see the election of a president and secretary and the third director.

The bylaws governing the elected offices, terms, and action of the nominating committee are included below:

III. Officers, Directors, Terms and Elections

A. President, Vice President and Secretary shall each serve for a term of two years. The President and Vice President may not succeed themselves, although the Board reserves the right to make an exception with regard to the Vice President. The Board shall appoint the Treasurer, who shall serve as the Board determines.

B. Terms shall be staggered so that President and Secretary shall be elected at the same time, and in alternate years the Vice President shall be elected.

K. The Nominating Committee shall be appointed in September by the President in consultation with the Board and it shall offer the slate of officers and other Board candidates with sufficient advance notice to permit participation by members. Candidates may be proposed by members. The Nominating Committee shall include any candidate proposed by ten or more members.

L. Insofar as practical, Directors and Officers are to be chosen from different continents as follows: There shall be one Director from North America, one from Europe, and one from South America, Africa, Asia or Oceania. Officers shall be chosen from at least two continents.

N. The three Directors shall be elected on a staggered basis in an election conducted electronically and coordinated to the extent possible with Officer elections. Each Director shall serve three years. The Board may appoint interim Officers and Directors.

In executing its function, the nominating committee solicited members and based on its findings, the committee recommends the following slate:

For president: Pete Chamalian, W1RM

For secretary: Jim Talens, N3JT

For director: Bertram Donn, G3XSN

With regard to voting: any member in good standing (governed by bylaw section I) has a right to vote for officers and directors. The Website being finalized to facilitate voting will enable members in good standing to vote once for candidates of their choice.

As this is the first election of CWops, and as the current officers and directors were appointed, not elected, any officer or director elected in this election is not subject to the rules regarding terms and succession. In other words, Pete, Jim and Bert, if elected, will have their respective terms based on this election, as would any other candidate. The time served as appointed officers and directors, in this instance, are not counted toward total time served. Thus, Pete and Jim, if elected, or anyone else, would begin with a two-year term of office; and Don, if elected, or anyone else, would begin his term as director with a three-year term.

In 2011, the vice president and a director would stand for election. In 2012, the president and secretary and the third director would stand for election. At that time, with regard to president and secretary, the succession rules would apply.

Current Nominees

Need Sponsors	AE4LD	Larry Draughn	Need Sponsors	AE4LD	Larry Draughn
Need Sponsors	AH6RE	Curt Knight	Need Sponsors	AH6RE	Curt Knight
Need Sponsors	K2CJ	Carl Lump	Need Sponsors	K2CJ	Carl Lump
Need Sponsors	K2FX	Paul Kolacki	Need Sponsors	K2FX	Paul Kolacki
Need Sponsors	K2WR	Richard Gelber	Need Sponsors	K2WR	Richard Gelber
Need Sponsors	K3FH	Mike Furfari	Need Sponsors	K3FH	Mike Furfari
Need Sponsors	K3SXA	Jim Friel	Need Sponsors	K3SXA	Jim Friel
Need Sponsors	K4GB	Tom Sleeman	Need Sponsors	K4GB	Tom Sleeman
Need Sponsors	K5AVJ	Lynn Baily	Need Sponsors	K5AVJ	Lynn Baily
Need Sponsors	K5UZ	David Norris	Need Sponsors	K5UZ	David Norris
Need Sponsors	K7RF	Jon Walsh	Need Sponsors	K7RF	Jon Walsh
Need Sponsors	K8EM	John Guilkey	Need Sponsors	K8EM	John Guilkey
Need Sponsors	KA8JBY	Robert A. Steenburgh	Need Sponsors	KA8JBY	Robert A. Steenburgh
Need Sponsors	KG0RD	Jim Kilby	Need Sponsors	KG0RD	Jim Kilby

For more details about nominees and status, check the “members only” on the Website:

www.cwops.org

For information about joining CWops, check the Website under “membership.”